CLAIMS

We claim:

1 1. A systems integration method, comprising the steps of:

2 in a first phase, defining an engagement model which
3 will be used to address a market place requirement;

4 in a second phase, utilizing said engagement model to
5 create an engagement template which specifically
6 addresses client requirements within said market place;
7 and

8 in a third phase, measuring, monitoring and controlling
9 client engagements based upon said engagement model.

1 2. The systems integration method of claim 1, said first
2 phase further comprising the steps of:

3 enabling a generic engagement model for addressing said
4 market place requirements; and

5 generating work product descriptions specified by said

6 engagement model.

1 3.   The systems integration method of claim 2, said generic

2 engagement mode including definitions of best practices and

3 reusable assets.

1 4.   The systems integration method of claim 2, said second

2 phase further including the steps of:

3   creating an engagement template personalized to a

4   specific client engagement from said engagement model;

5   creating attack, resource, and deployment plans for

6   said specific client engagement using said engagement

7   template.

1 5.   The systems integration method of claim 4, said third

2 phase further including the step of:

3   cyclically redefining said engagement template while

4   deploying said work product descriptions and process

5   descriptions to said client engagement.

1   6.   The systems integration method of claim 5, said third
2   phase further including the steps of:

3   monitoring performance of said client engagement; and

4   based upon said performance, allocating resources to
5   further attack said marketplace requirement.

1   7.   A method for defining an engagement model, comprising
2   the steps of:

3   responsive to recognition of a market opportunity,
4   accessing a database of current engagement families to
5   identify an engagement family corresponding to said
6   market opportunity;

7   upon determining that a current engagement family does
8   not exist appropriate to said market opportunity,
9   developing a new engagement model including iteratively
10   defining and applying to said new engagement model
11   required process descriptions and work product.

12   descriptions.

1   8.   The method of claim 7, further comprising the step

2   responsive to determining that a current engagement family

3   does exist appropriate to said market opportunity, adapting

4   an existing engagement model to said market opportunity

5   including iteratively modifying and applying to said

6   existing engagement model required process descriptions and

7   work product descriptions.

1   9.   A method for utilizing an engagement model, said

2   engagement model including work product descriptions and

3   process descriptions, comprising the steps of:

4   providing a database of said engagement models;

5   developing a definition of client requirements and an

6   attack hypothesis for addressing said client issues;

7   determining whether said database contains an

8   appropriate engagement model for addressing said client

9   issues, including defining a fit parameter;

10   responsive to said fit parameter, making a bid/no bid

11   decision;

12   responsive to a bid decision, creating from said

13   appropriate engagement model an engagement template.

1   10. The method of claim 9, said step for creating said

2   engagement template further including the steps of:

3   applying said appropriate engagement model to said

4   client requirements; and

5   adding, deleting and modifying work product

6   descriptions and process descriptions as required to

7   optimize said fit parameter.

1   11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the steps

2   of:

3   utilizing said engagement templates to define and

4   collect metrics across a plurality of engagement

5   models; and

6   responsive to said metrics, managing a family of said

7   engagement models, including adjusting market attack

8   plans and the allocation of constrained resources

9   responsive to the health of said family of engagement

10   models.

1   12.   The method of claim 11, said metrics including risk

2 parameters, cost parameters, and customer satisfaction

3 parameters.

1   13.   A system for providing integrated system solutions,

2 comprising:

3   a set of process descriptions;

4   a set of work product descriptions;

5   at least one engagement model collecting at least one

6   said process description and at least one said work

7   product description into a model for implementing a

8   typical project addressing a type of marketplace

9   requirement.

1   14. The system of claim 13, further comprising:

2   at least one engagement family including a plurality of

3   said engagement models for addressing a family of

4   typical projects.

1   15. The system of claim 13, further comprising:

2   a plurality of work product descriptions organized into

3   a plurality of domains, each said domain being a

4   logical grouping of said work product descriptions.

1   16. The system of claim 15, said domains including an

2   application domain, an architecture domain, a business

3   domain, an engagement domain, an organization domain, and an

4   operations domain.

1   17. The system of claim 13, said work product descriptions

2   describing what to develop for a specific project and said

3   process description describing how to develop said specific

4   project.

1   18.   The system of claim 17, said process descriptions

2   further comprising phase descriptions, activity descriptions

3   and task descriptions.

1   19.   The system of claim 18, further comprising at least one

2   engagement template derived from one of said engagement

3   models for defining said work product descriptions and said

4   process descriptions for a specific engagement project.

1   20.   The system of claim 16, said application domain

2   organizing work product descriptions relating to the design,

3   development and testing of computer software components,

4   applications and systems.

1   21.   The system of claim 16, said architecture domain

2   organizing work product descriptions relating to the

3   architecture of an information technology system for

4   addressing business and infrastructure requirements.

1   22.   The system of claim 16, said business domain organizing

2   work product descriptions relating to the structured

3   investigation of current and desired situations with a

4   client' business.

1   23. The system of claim 16, said engagement domain

2   organizing work product descriptions relating to project

3   management and technical delivery for projects worldwide.

1   24. The system of claim 16, said organization domain

2   organizing work product descriptions relating to technology-

3   based business transformations using systematically defined

4   organization analysis and design and change management

5   practices.

1   25. The system of claim 16, said operations domain

2   organizing work product descriptions relating to the

3   execution and management of information technology services

4   and resources and to the protection of information

5   technology assets.

1   26. A program storage device readable by a machine,

2   tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a

3   machine to perform method steps for providing systems

4   integration, said method steps comprising:

5   in a first phase, defining an engagement model which

6   will be used to address a market place requirement;

7   in a second phase, utilizing said engagement model to

8   create an engagement template which specifically

9   addresses client requirements within said market place;

10   and

11   in a third phase, measuring, monitoring and controlling

12   client engagements based upon said engagement model.

1   27. A program storage device readable by a machine,

2   tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a

3   machine to perform method steps for defining and utilizing

4   an engagement model, said method steps comprising:

5   responsive to recognition of a market opportunity,

6   accessing a database of current engagement families to

7   identify an engagement family corresponding to said

8   market opportunity;

9   upon determining that a current engagement family does

10   not exist appropriate to said market opportunity,

11   developing a new engagement model including iteratively

12   defining and applying to said new engagement model

13   required process descriptions and work product.

14   descriptions;

15   providing a database of said engagement models;

16   developing a definition of client requirements and an

17   attack hypothesis for addressing said client issues;

18   determining whether said database contains an

19   appropriate engagement model for addressing said client

20   issues, including defining a fit parameter;

21   responsive to said fit parameter, making a bid/no bid

22   decision; and

23   responsive to a bid decision, creating from said

24   appropriate engagement model an engagement template.

1   28. A computer program product or computer program element

2   configured to be operable responsive to a customer having

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3   requirements for executing process steps for defining an

4   engagement model which will be used to address a market

5   place requirement, utilizing said engagement model to create

6   an engagement template which specifically addresses client

7   requirements within said market place, and measuring,

8   monitoring and controlling client engagements based upon

9   said engagement model.

1   29. An article of manufacture comprising:

2   a computer useable medium having computer readable program

3   code means embodied therein for providing systems

4   integration, the computer readable program means in said

5   article of manufacture comprising:

6   computer readable program code means for causing a

7   computer to effect providing a set of process

8   descriptions;

9   computer readable program code means for causing a

10   computer to effect providing a set of work product

11   descriptions;

12   computer readable program code means for causing a

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13   computer to effect providing at least one engagement

14   model collecting at least one said process description

15   and at least one said work product description into a

16   model for implementing a typical project addressing a

17   type of marketplace requirement.

1   30. A computer program product or computer program element

2   configured to be operable responsive to a customer having

3   requirements for executing process steps for defining and

4   using an engagement model, said engagement model including

5   work product descriptions and process descriptions, said

6   process steps comprising:

7   providing a database of said engagement models;

8   developing a definition of client requirements and an

9   attack hypothesis for addressing said client issues;

10   determining whether said database contains an

11   appropriate engagement model for addressing said client

12   issues, including defining a fit parameter;

13   responsive to said fit parameter, making a bid/no bid

14   decision;

15 responsive to a bid decision, creating from said

16 appropriate engagement model an engagement template;

17 applying said appropriate engagement model to said

18 client requirements;

19 adding, deleting and modifying work product

20 descriptions and process descriptions as required to

21 optimize said fit parameter;

22 utilizing said engagement templates to define and

23 collect metrics across a plurality of engagement

24 models; and

25 responsive to said metrics, managing a family of said

26 engagement models, including adjusting market attack

27 plans and the allocation of constrained resources

28 responsive to the health of said family of engagement

29 models.